

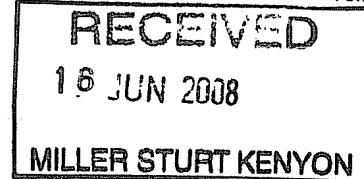


European Patent Office
80298 MUNICH
GERMANY
Tel. +49 (0)89 2399 - 0
Fax +49 (0)89 2399 - 4465



Sturt, Clifford Mark
Miller Sturt Kenyon
9 John Street
London WC1N 2ES
GRANDE BRETAGNE

For any questions about
this communication:
Tel.: +31 (0)70 340 45 00



Date

17.06.08

Reference EPP15349A	Application No./Patent No. 03809601.2 - 2425 PCT/US0333422
Applicant/Proprietor Graco Minnesota Inc.	

Communication

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the supplementary European search report under Article 153(7) EPC for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

Refund of the search fee

If applicable under Article 9 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A	US 4 838 458 A (DAVIDSON C MARSHALL [US]) 13 June 1989 (1989-06-13) * column 3, line 10 - column 5, line 13; figures 1-4 * -----	1, 3-10	INV. B05B7/04 B05B15/02 B29B7/74 B29B7/76
A	US 4 427 153 A (SCHAEFER THOMAS J [US]) 24 January 1984 (1984-01-24) * column 3, line 62 - column 4, line 9; figure 1 * -----	1, 3-9	
A	US 4 501 394 A1 (KWOK KUI C [US]) 26 February 1985 (1985-02-26) * column 2, line 20 - column 5, line 2; figures 1,2,4 * -----	1, 3-9, 11	
A	US 3 053 457 A1 (TRUMBULL DONALD E ET AL) 11 September 1962 (1962-09-11) * abstract; figure 8 * -----	1, 3-9	
A	US 2 335 116 A1 (HANSEN MERRILL E) 23 November 1943 (1943-11-23) * abstract; figure 2 * -----	1, 3-9	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	US 3 687 370 A1 (SPERRY CHARLES R) 29 August 1972 (1972-08-29) * column 2, line 66 - column 8, line 24; figure 2 * -----	1, 3-10	B05B B29B B01F
X	US 3 799 403 A (PROBST R ET AL) 26 March 1974 (1974-03-26) * column 3, line 27 - column 11, line 14; figures 1-7 * -----	2	
A	US 3 541 023 A (COLE AUSTIN) 17 November 1970 (1970-11-17) * column 1, line 34 - column 5, line 29; figures 1-4 * ----- -----	2 -/-	
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
2	Place of search Munich	Date of completion of the search 22 February 2008	Examiner Brito, Fernando
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages		
A	AT 349 744 B (SEALED AIR CORP [US]) 25 April 1979 (1979-04-25) * page 2, line 36 - page 5, line 34; figures 1-6 *	10	
A	US 5 211 311 A (PETCEN DONALD H [US]) 18 May 1993 (1993-05-18) * column 8, line 45 - column 16, line 20; figures 1-9 *	10	
A	US 3 920 188 A (PRICE SIDNEY M) 18 November 1975 (1975-11-18) * column 2, line 25 - column 4, line 37; figures 1-7 *	10	
A	CH 401 010 A (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG [US]) 31 October 1965 (1965-10-31) * column 3, line 36 - column 15, line 10; figure 3 *	11-15	
A	EP 0 204 577 A (OLIN CORP [US]) 10 December 1986 (1986-12-10) * claims 1-20; figures 1-3 *	1,11-15	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
A	US 3 111 271 A (AKE LOFGREN CARL) 19 November 1963 (1963-11-19) * claims 1,2; figures 1,2 *	11-15	
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
2			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		22 February 2008	Brito, Fernando
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

- The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1,3-9

A spray gun comprising a fluid housing with sealing cartridges in radial ports in a threaded surface of said housing.

2. claim: 2

A spray gun with a push and turn connector, a piston and a mixing chamber.

3. claim: 10

A spray gun comprising a purge rod and a mixing module with fluid passages having ends in different planes.

4. claims: 11-15

A spray gun comprising an air cap having lugs, said air cap, when removed, being engageable to a retaining ring for its tightening or removal.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 03 80 9601

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

22-02-2008

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 4838458	A	13-06-1989	JP	1266875 A		24-10-1989
US 4427153	A	24-01-1984	CA	1209104 A1		05-08-1986
			DE	3373984 D1		12-11-1987
			EP	0116613 A1		29-08-1984
			IT	1209048 B		10-07-1989
			WO	8400706 A1		01-03-1984
US 4501394	A1			NONE		
US 3053457	A1			NONE		
US 2335116	A1			NONE		
US 3687370	A1			NONE		
US 3799403	A	26-03-1974		NONE		
US 3541023	A	17-11-1970		NONE		
AT 349744	B	25-04-1979	AT	348477 A		15-09-1978
US 5211311	A	18-05-1993		NONE		
US 3920188	A	18-11-1975		NONE		
CH 401010	A	31-10-1965		NONE		
EP 0204577	A	10-12-1986	BR	8602548 A		03-02-1987
			JP	61283371 A		13-12-1986
			US	4708292 A		24-11-1987
US 3111271	A	19-11-1963	DE	1111545 B		20-07-1961
			GB	888383 A		31-01-1962